In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121, Applicant has provided (1) accurate instructions to amend the claims, (2) replacement claims in clean form herein, and (3) another version of the amended claims marked up to show all the changes relative to the previous version, which appears on an attached page.

The Examiner has stated that the claims of the present application are directed to distinct inventions, which he has divided into the following twenty-two groups:

Group I: Claims 1, 3 and 22-26, drawn to a composition comprising a chemotactic factor,

Group II: Claims 1-5, 11 and 22-26, drawn to a composition comprising a chemotactic factor and a device,

Group III: Claims 6-7 and 22-30, drawn to a composition comprising a chemotactic factor and an APC stimulating factor,

Group IV: Claims 1, 3 and 22-26, drawn to a composition comprising a chemokine and a reactive hapten,

Group V: Claims 9, 10, 22-43 and 127-128, drawn to a composition comprising a chemotactic factor, an APC stimulating factor and an antigen presenting cell loaded with an immunoregulatory molecule,

Group VI: Claims 11, 12 and 16-21, drawn to a composition comprising a chemotactic factor, an APC stimulating factor and a device,

Group VII: Claims 11, 13 and 16-21, drawn to a composition comprising a chemokine, a reactive hapten and a device,

Group VIII: Claims 11, 12 and 14-21, drawn to a composition comprising a chemotactic factor, an APC stimulating factor and an antigen presenting cell loaded with an immunoregulatory molecule,

Group IX: Claims 44, 46 65-69 and 121, drawn to a method of providing an artificial chemotactic factor gradient comprising a chemotactic factor,

Group X: Claims 44-48, 54, 65-69 and 121, drawn to a method of providing an artificial chemotactic factor gradient comprising a chemotactic factor and a device,

Group XI: Claims 44, 46, 65-69 and 121, drawn to a method of entrapping antigen presenting cells comprising a chemotactic factor and an APC stimulating factor,

Group XII: Claims 51, 66 and 71, drawn to a method of entrapping antigen presenting cells comprising a chemokine and a reactive hapten,

Group XIII: Claims 44, 46, 65-69 and 121, drawn to a method of entrapping antigen presenting cells comprising a chemotactic factor, an APC stimulating factor and an immunoregulatory molecule,

Group XIV: Claims 54, 55 and 59-64, drawn to a method of entrapping antigen presenting cells comprising a chemotactic factor, an APC stimulating factor and a device,

Group XV: Claims 54, 56 and 59-64, drawn to a method of entrapping antigen presenting cells comprising a chemokine, a reactive hapten and a device.

Group XVI: Claims 54, 55 and 57-64, drawn to a method for loading presenting cells comprising a chemotactic factor, an APC stimulating factor, an immunoregulatory molecule and a device,

Group XVII: Claims 87-109, 124-126, 131 and 132, drawn to a vaccine comprising a chemotactic factor, an APC stimulating factor and an immunoregulatory molecule,

Group XVIII: Claims 110-118, drawn to a vaccine comprising a chemotactic factor, an APC stimulating factor, an immunoregulatory molecule and a device,

Group XIX: Claims 87-109, 124-126, 131 and 132, drawn to a method of regulating immune response comprising a chemotactic factor, an APC stimulating factor, an immunoregulatory molecule and a device,

Group XX: Claims 87-109, 124-126, 131 and 132, drawn to a method of regulating immune response comprising a chemotactic factor, an APC stimulating factor, and an immunoregulatory molecule,

Group XXI: Claims 110-118, drawn to a method of regulating immune response comprising a chemotactic factor, an APC stimulating factor, an immunoregulatory molecule and a device, and

Group XXII: Claims 119, drawn to a method of regulating immune response comprising a chemotactic factor, an APC stimulating factor, an immunoregulatory molecule and a device.

The Examiner contends that Applicants must elect one group to be examined in the present application. Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for his time during the telephone interview on October 9, 2002 during which Applicants requested further discussion of the restriction with the Examiner. The Examiner indicated to Applicants that he did not have sufficient time to issue the restriction due to the large number of claims and would consider any traversal Applicants might suggest. Applicants indicated to the Examiner that they had written a lot of independent claims to avoid any problems that might arise due to the Federal Circuit decision in *Festo* which has subsequently been reversed by the Supreme Court.

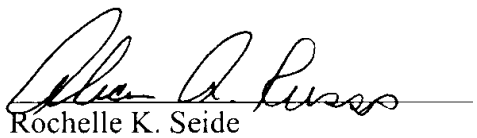
Applicants respectfully wish to traverse the Examiner's restriction requirement. Applicants believe that many of the Groups of claims should be examined together. In particular, Applicants believe that Groups IX and X should be examined together because the only distinguishing factor between Groups IX and X is the addition of a device to the composition comprising the chemotactic factor, wherein the device is useful for administering the composition. The inclusion of a device does not create any requirement for burdensome additional searching. If the method is patentable without the device, it should be patentable with the device. Therefore, Applicants assert that the claims of Groups IX and X as presently amended should be examined together.

In order to better indicate the relationship between the claims of Groups IX and X, Applicants have amended the claims herein. These amendments have not added any new matter. In addition, Applicants have added new claim 133, which includes the same subject matter of claim 48 but was added after the amendment to claim 48 to avoid improper multiple dependencies.

Although Applicants wish to traverse the restriction, Applicants are aware of the requirement that a single group must be elected in order to be fully responsive. Therefore, Applicants elect to pursue the claims of Group IX (claims 44, 46, 65-69 and 121) with traverse and without prejudice to pursuing the cancelled claims in one or more divisional applications.

Applicants have enclosed the fee for a three-month extension of time as required under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(a)(3). Applicants do not believe that any additional fee is required for this filing. Nevertheless, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees required for this submission not otherwise enclosed herewith to Deposit Account No. 02-4377. Two copies of this page are enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,



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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

Please rewrite claims 44-48, 65, 66, 69 and 121 as follows:

44. A method for providing an artificial chemotactic factor gradient *in vivo* comprising administering a composition comprising one or more chemotactic factor(s).

45. [A] The method of claim 44 wherein the composition further comprises [for providing an artificial chemotactic factor gradient *in vivo* comprising one or more chemotactic factor(s) and] a device.

46. [A] The method of claim 44 [for providing an artificial chemokine gradient *in vivo* comprising one or more] wherein the chemotactic factor is a chemokine[(s)].

47. [A] The method of claim 46 wherein the composition further comprises [for providing an artificial chemokine gradient *in vivo* comprising one or more chemokine(s) and] a device.

48. [A] The method of claim 45 wherein the device is [for providing an artificial chemokine gradient *in vivo* comprising one or more chemokine(s) and] ethylene-vinyl-acetate.

65. The method of claim 44, 45 [,49, 52 or 53] or 133 wherein the chemotactic factor is selected from the group consisting of chemokines, nucleotides and neuropeptides.

66. The method of claim 46, 47, 48[, 50, 51 or 65] or 133 wherein the chemokine is selected from the group consisting of MIP-1ÿ, RANTES, MCP-3, MIP-5, MCPs, TARC, MDC, MIP-3ÿ, IL-8, SDF-1, MIP-3ÿ and SLC.

69. The method of claim [46, 47, 48, 50, 51 or 65] 66 wherein the chemokine is MIP-3ÿ.

121. The method of claim 44[,] and 45[, 49, 52 or 53] wherein the composition [chemotactic factor] is administered subcutaneously.